

The ILO global report, "The End of Child Labor: Within Reach," states that for the first time child labor, especially in its worst forms, is in decline across the globe. Between the years 2000 and 2004, the number of child laborers worldwide fell by 11 percent, from 246 million to 218 million. Even better, the number of children and youth aged 5–17 trapped in hazardous work decreased by 26 percent, declining from 171 million in 2000 to 126 million in 2004. Among younger child laborers, the drop was even sharper at 33 percent.

This is remarkable progress in just 4 years' time. And looking to the future, the report cautiously predicts that, if the current pace of decline is maintained, and if global efforts to stop child labor continue, we have a real shot at eliminating child labor in its worst forms within 10 years' time.

Today, 218 million child laborers—many of whom are trapped in the worst forms of child labor, such as prostitution, armed conflicts, and slavery—are still suffering. While the U.S. Government and international organizations such as the World Bank and UNICEF have programs designed to reduce abusive and exploitative child labor, it will require all of these entities and others working together if we are to reach the goal of ending the worst forms of child labor by the year 2016.

Likewise, in the broader fight against child labor, the ILO report verifies that we are on the right track to eliminate abusive and exploitative child labor. The great work of the ILO's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor, IPEC, affirms the confidence I placed in this program early on. I secured the first Federal appropriation for the IPEC program back in 1996, and over the last decade, I have secured a total of more than \$323 million for the program. Clearly, that money has made a real difference in the lives of children. It has given millions of children an opportunity to get an education and to break the cycle of poverty.

Although there has been a tremendous amount of progress in ending child labor, now is not the time to become complacent. Economic development alone is not enough. We must also focus on human rights and educational opportunities for those in poverty. Social change must go hand in hand with economic development, which requires workers' and employers' organizations. Our keys to success will be mainstreaming child labor efforts with other human rights and development goals, as well as getting national governments, NGOs, and international organizations working cooperatively to end child poverty.

We should not think about these children only on June 12 each year. We should think about this last vestige of slavery 365 days a year. I have remained steadfast in my commitment to eliminating abusive and exploitative child labor. It was in 1992 that I first

introduced a bill to ban all products made by abusive and exploitative child labor from entering the United States. And I am committed to working with the representatives of the cocoa industry and the national governments to implement the Harkin-Engel Protocol by July 1, 2008 deadline.

In my view, we can make significant progress to eliminate this scourge if we all do our part and redouble our efforts. This means that governments must not merely pass laws but enforce them, while also striving to provide quality free education. Businesses must take responsibility, as well, by not hiring children, and by paying adults livable wages so they can provide for their families. Multilateral institutions must also play a robust role. Together, we can eliminate the worst forms of child labor by 2016.

#### 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF JACOB'S PILLOW

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, this month marks the 75th anniversary season of Jacob's Pillow. Based in Becket, MA, it is the longest running dance festival in the United States. Jacob's Pillow is renowned in the dance world for its commitment to excellence and beloved by audiences throughout the world for the quality and diversity of its programming.

This prestigious organization is one of the most significant cultural groups in Western Massachusetts and it attracts tens of thousands of visitors to the beautiful Berkshire Mountains each summer. Cultural tourism is the second largest industry in Massachusetts, and cultural jewels such as Jacob's Pillow are the anchors of the industry. Year after year, surveys demonstrate that arts, culture, and heritage are among the top reasons for visiting Massachusetts.

With its proud heritage, Jacob's Pillow continues to be one of the most dynamic centers of dance in our State and across the country. As Mikhail Baryshnikov has said, "Jacob's Pillow is one of America's most precious cultural assets—a haven for choreographers and dancers and an environment that nurtures the creation of new work."

The site was originally a family farm settled with extraordinary pioneering spirit in the 1700s, and it became a station on the Underground Railroad in the 19th century for slaves escaping to freedom.

In 1933, Jacob's Pillow was established as a dance festival and school. Its mission continues today to support dance creation, presentation, education, and preservation. Through this work, it broadens appreciation and understanding for classical and modern dance—and it provides an important opportunity for dancers and choreographers to develop their own work and skills.

In addition to its regular programming, Jacob's Pillow also offers over

200 free events each season, including performances, workshops, lectures, and discussions with artists. It maintains a preservation program with rare archives open to the public, a training program for arts administrators, year-round community programs, and a creative development residency program.

Jacob's Pillow also encompasses a professional school training and mentoring program for emerging dancers and is recognized throughout the globe as a center for arts leadership in the world of dance.

It is the first and only dance institution in the United States to be declared a National Historic Landmark for its important part in our country's cultural heritage. It embodies the very best in cultural achievement and has enhanced the causes of the many talented artists who have performed on its stages and enhanced the lives of countless audiences who have enjoyed their exceptional performances.

As President Kennedy said, "I am certain that after the dust of centuries has passed over our cities, we, too, will be remembered not for victories or defeats in battle or in politics, but for our contribution to the human spirit."

I commend the many dedicated persons who have made Jacob's Pillow such a remarkable success over the past 75 years. May this treasure of Berkshire County continue to enrich us all in the years ahead.

#### EXTRAORDINARY CONFERENCE OF CFE STATES PARTIES

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, on May 28, 2007, Russia requested an Extraordinary Conference of States Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe—the CFE Treaty—to discuss what Russia identified as "exceptional circumstances" that may lead them to suspend implementation of the treaty. Russia complains that most of their former Warsaw Pact allies have now joined NATO, significantly altering, in Russia's view, the "balance" of forces in Europe. This Extraordinary Conference is now under way in Vienna, Austria. What happens there will have tremendous implications for the security of Europe and for U.S.-Russian relations. Both sides must avoid actions that could lead to the potential unraveling of a treaty that has served as a cornerstone of European security since the end of the Cold War.

In 1990, the CFE was conceived as a mechanism to reduce post-Cold-War arsenals of conventional weapons in Europe and has evolved into a stabilizing influence through its wide range of agreed verification measures. This treaty should not be relegated to the dustbin of history. That is not in the interest of all European States, including Russia, nor of the United States.

The CFE Treaty was originally designed to limit the possibility of a surprise attack on Europe, when the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact still existed. It imposes numerical limits on